

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicants propose to label the blocks in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings in accordance with the accompanying ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES. Enclosed herewith is a REPLACEMENT SHEET incorporating these changes.

REMARKS

Enclosed herewith is a Substitute Specification in which the specification as filed has been amended in various places to correct typographical and grammatical errors, and to also add section headings. In addition, the specification as filed has been amended to cite U.S. Patents 5,488,409 and 5,621,579, corresponding, respectively, to the cited WO 93/04473 and WO 95/18449. Enclosed herewith is form PTO/SB/08A listing these U.S. patents.

In support of the above, enclosed herewith is a copy of the specification as filed marked up with the above changes.

The undersigned attorney asserts that no new matter has been incorporated into the Substitute Specification.

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, the claims have been amended for clarity.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,240,241 to Yuen.

The Yuen patent discloses a still frame video in index, in which a portion 33c of a RAM memory 33 stores still frame videos exemplary of the programs recorded on a video tape 40. The RAM memory also stores a directory of descriptive material of the stored programs, including, for example, the program title, location on the tape, and the length of the program. A display 32e

is provided for displaying the contents of the directory as well as the still frame video for a selected one of the programs.

Alternatively, the contents of the directory and the still frame video may be shown as an on-screen display on a video display 50.

The subject invention relates to a method and module for allocating recording space on a recording medium. As claimed in, for example, claim 1, the subject invention includes "an associated directory listing blocks specifying free space and previously recorded entries", and the method includes "receiving a start position on the recording medium", "determining, with the aid of the directory, consecutive blocks of said listed blocks necessary for recording at least the entry of predetermined length, starting from the start position" and "displaying the directory". In addition the method includes "indicating the determined consecutive blocks necessary for recording at least the entry of predetermined length in the displayed directory".

The Examiner has indicated "Yuen discloses a method of allocating recording space on a recording medium for recording an entry of predetermined length", and cites col. 16, lines 19-22; "determining, with the aid of the directory, the consecutive blocks necessary for recording at least the entry of predetermined length (see fig. 20 Blank with 210 min, the consecutive blocks are created in the blank space see also col. 7, lines 59-66)"; "indicating the consecutive blocks in the displayed directory (see fig. 20 Blanks

which is displayed with previously recorded programs and indicates a free space available in the medium. It is inherent that there are consecutive blocks of free space within 210 minutes of recording)."

It is well-founded that "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Further, "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Applicants submit that the Examiner is mis-reading Yuen. In particular, while Yuen refers to the "recording" process, nowhere does Yuen describe how the recording process is set-up using the directory, as in the subject invention. In particular, Yuen at col. 16, lines 19-22 states "Referring to FIG. 17, the display for a home recorded tape, in this example, HR tape number 2 (400), contains a listing of the titles and lengths of the programs recorded on the cassette." It should be apparent that this section does not disclose "a method of allocating recording space on a recording medium for recording an entry of predetermined length".

Further, claim 1 states "determining, with the aid of the directory, consecutive blocks of said listed blocks necessary for recording at least the entry of predetermined length, starting from

the start position". Applicants submit that it should be apparent that the blocks referred to are the recorded program descriptions and the free spaces as shown in the directory, "an associated directory listing blocks specifying free space and previously recorded entries", where each block is either a program listing or a free (blank) space. Hence, the Examiner's statement "see fig. 20 Blank with 210 min, the consecutive blocks are created in the blank space see also col. 7, lines 59-66" does not make any sense.

"Blank" with 210 min. is one block according to the present invention. Therefore, if the entry of predetermined length is 220 minutes, then, referring to Fig. 20 of Yuen, the determined consecutive blocks would be the block "PLAYING OUTFIELD" of 13 min., and the block "BLANK" of 210 min. Further, Yuen at col. 7, lines 59-66 states:

"A field 1051 is a pointer pointing to the address of the first entry of the directory 1021 represented in FIG. 3 by an arrow pointing to the program name (PROGRAM) 1042. Each entry also has a field 1048 storing the address of the next entry in the directory also represented in FIG. 3 by an arrow pointing to program 2. These fields provide a link from one entry to the next entry and are used for facilitating search, deletion, and addition of entries."

It should be apparent that this section of Yuen is describing how records are stored in the directory 33a portion of the memory, and not the displayed directory. Further, this has nothing to do with the claim 1 limitation "determining, with the aid of the directory, consecutive blocks of said listed blocks necessary for recording at


least the entry of predetermined length, starting from the start position".

Claim 1 also states "indicating the determined consecutive blocks necessary for recording at least the entry of predetermined length in the displayed directory". Since, as shown above, Yuen does not determine consecutive blocks, then the Examiner's statement "see fig. 20 Blanks which is displayed with previously recorded programs and indicates a free space available in the medium. It is inherent that there are consecutive blocks of free space within 210 minutes of recording", does not make any sense with regard to the claimed invention.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the subject invention, as claimed, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the prior art, and as such, is patentable thereover.

Applicants believes that this application, containing claims 1-19, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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On November 17, 2005
By Burnett James



ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

1/2

